

C. Robert Steringer, Of Counsel

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Focus

[Litigation](#)

Profile

Bob Steringer is an advisor, litigator, and appellate lawyer for private and government clients in Oregon and Washington. He brings a full toolkit to client service, considering whether a client's goals are best achieved by litigation, pursuing a change in the law, seeking alternative dispute resolution, doing a business deal or, sometimes, just waiting and seeing. Bob's practice focuses on:

- Litigation and appeals on a wide range of issues in state and federal courts, including complex business disputes, government regulation, constitutional and public policy matters, and professional licensing, with recognition by *The Best Lawyers in America*® since 2013 and by *Super Lawyers*® since 2015.
- Outside general counsel services for governmental entities, including advice on local legislation, public records, public meetings, public contracting, intergovernmental relations, Public Employees Retirement System, board governance, and internal dispute resolution.
- Representation of public and private clients on issues at the intersection of law and public policy, including constitutional law, state agency rulemaking and regulation, government ethics, election and campaign finance regulation, initiatives and referenda, 501(c)(4) formation and regulation, lobbying regulation, energy regulation, and professional licensing, with recognition as *Best Lawyers*® 2025 Administrative / Regulatory Law "Lawyer of the Year" in Portland, Oregon.

Prior to joining Dunn Carney, Bob led a regionally recognized appellate practice representing private and government clients in Oregon and Washington appellate courts, as well as the Ninth Circuit. He has secured appellate victories for clients in high-stakes cases establishing the law of Oregon in areas as diverse as corporate succession, contribution rights among insurers under the Oregon Environmental Cleanup Assistance Act and common law, the constitutionality of civil forfeiture statutes, and application of the attorney-client privilege to a client's email communications using an employer's email system.

Bob is a former President of the Multnomah Bar Association and currently serves as Vice-President of the Multnomah Bar Foundation.

Admissions

Oregon

Washington

U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon

Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals

Education

J.D., University of Oregon School of Law

B.A., University of Oregon, *cum laude*

Honors & Affiliations

Professional Affiliations

Multnomah Bar Foundation Board of Directors (Board of Directors 2023-present, Secretary-Treasurer 2024, Vice President 2025)

Multnomah Bar Association (Board of Directors 2012-2017, President 2015-2016)

Oregon and National Council of School Attorneys (COSA)

Oregon Association of Defense Counsel

American Bar Association

Oregon State Bar Constitutional Law Section (Executive Committee 2009-2015, Chair 2014)

MBA Professionalism Committee (Chair 2011-2012)

Oregon State Bar's Public Service Advisory Committee

MBA Pro Bono Task Force

Multnomah Bar Association's Mentor Program

Oregon State Bar's New Lawyer Mentoring Program

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Honors and Recognitions

Named the Best Lawyers® 2025 Administrative/ Regulatory Law "Lawyer of the Year" in Portland, Oregon

AV Preeminent Peer Review Rated with Martindale-Hubbell®

Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Administrative/ Regulatory Law, Appellate Practice and Commercial Litigation every year since 2013

Elected as a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation (2014-present) (an honorary organization of lawyers, judges and legal scholars whose careers have demonstrated outstanding dedication to the welfare of their communities and to the highest principles of the legal profession, limited to one-third of one-percent of the lawyers licensed to practice in each jurisdiction of the United States)

Selected to Super Lawyers® for appellate law every year since 2015

Results & Expertise

Publications and presentations

Author: "Contract Clause," Chapter 8 in Oregon Constitutional Law (2022 & 2013 eds.), Oregon State Bar

Co-Author with J. Aaron Landau and Katherine Thomas: "Separation of Powers," Chapter 12 in Oregon Constitutional Law (2022 ed.), Oregon State Bar publication.

Co-Author with Ellen F. Rosenblum and Denise G. Fjordbeck: 2016 update to "Agency Authority and Functions," Chapter 1 in *Oregon Administrative Law*, Oregon State Bar publication.

Co-Author: Oregon chapter in "Lobbying, PACs, and Campaign Finance - 50 State Handbook," published annually by the State Capital Group through Thomson Reuters/West (2009-present).

Co-Author with Brett Applegate: "Dave Frohnmayer in the United States Supreme Court," The Oregon Constitutional Law Newsletter (Winter 2016).

"Elephant in the Room," Multnomah Bar Association's Multnomah Lawyer (Summer 2015).

Co-Author with Brett Applegate: "When Stranahan Doesn't Get You Where You Need to Go - Advocating for New Approaches to Interpreting the Oregon Constitution," Oregon State Bar's Oregon Constitutional Law Newsletter (Summer 2014).

Author: "Is a Lobbyist's Gift to a Public Official an Empty Gesture?" in Oregon State Bar Constitutional Law Section's March 2011 Newsletter (analyzed Supreme Court case regarding constitutionality of statutes regulating gifts from lobbyists to elected officials).

Author: "Litigating the 'Fair Value' of a Business Organization," published in Winter 2011 edition of The

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Verdict (OADC publication) (explored strategies for litigating “fair value” in business break-ups).

Co-Author with James Mountain, Jr. and Jona J. Maukonen: “Postdecision Matters in the Court of Appeals,” Chapter 11 in *Appeal and Review: the Basics* (2010 ed.), Oregon State Bar publication.

Co-author with Susan Marmaduke: “Abandoning ‘We Can’t Tell,’” *Oregon State Bar Bulletin*, 2003 (analyzed the power vested in the judiciary to affirm judgments notwithstanding trial court errors, comparing the Oregon Supreme Court’s decision in *Shoup v. Wal-Mart Stores* with Amended Article VII, section 3, of the Oregon Constitution).

Co-author of Introduction with Kurt Wanless: “Oregon Land Use Symposium – The Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of B. 100,” *Oregon Law Review*, 1998.

Author: “The Clergy-Penitent Privilege in Oregon,” *Oregon Law Review*, 1997 (analyzed the history and application of Oregon’s clergy-penitent privilege in the context of a news-making dispute over the recording of a conversation between a jail inmate and a Catholic priest).